2. Project Summary

This project was originally part of a competitive grant application submitted by the Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District. This project will perform significant and substantial fuels reduction treatments within National Forest lands adjacent to the community of Mammoth Lakes, CA and will enhance the fuels treatments that are being planned through a cooperative effort with the Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District (MLFPD). The project is located within the Wildland Urban Intermix (WUI) defense zone, and is strategically located within an area that is high priority for treatment due to the dense vegetative conditions, terrain, prevailing wind patterns, and the proximity to a popular recreation area. Forests in this area were historically subject to frequent, low intensity fires that resulted in open fire-resistant stands of trees. The lack of fire has resulted in a change in species composition, structure, and density, and has allowed dense vegetation and surface fuels to accumulate. The dense forest conditions within the project area make the area prone to the risk of a stand-replacing catastrophic wildfire. The Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) community hazard rating for this area is Extreme. This action is intended to decrease wildfire spread and intensity to protect the community and increase safety of residents and firefighters, as well as to enhance forest health and protect watershed resources, including water quality, wildlife habitat, scenic quality, and heritage resources, each of which are important components to maintaining and enhancing recreational opportunities in this popular year-round recreation area.

The fuels reduction work on National Forest lands would include:

- Perform fuels reduction treatments on approximately 55 acres of National Forest lands adjacent to the community of Mammoth Lakes, including a combination of understory thinning, or mastication of trees (standing live and dead trees) and brush, and slash disposal through chipping, hauling the material off-site, or pile burning. The work would be completed by hand or mechanized equipment (masticator, helicopter, etc.).

The total project cost, including planning and implementation is approximately **$230,000**. The grant request is for **$99,999**, which would include funding for implementation of the fuels reduction treatments on the National Forest lands.

3. Authorization to Apply or Resolution

N/A